

Photolysis of ClO Dimer at 254 nm

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The ClO dimer, ClOOC1, is important in the photochemistry of polar ozone depletion. It is formed by the self-reaction of ClO radicals at low temperatures, such as those of the polar night. When sunlight appears, the dimer will be photolyzed. Two reaction paths are considered possible. One yields Cl and ClOO radicals and contributes to ozone depletion, whereas the other yields inert (10. in this work the photolysis products of ClOOC1 were determined at 254 nm at -78°C. The photolysis of Cl₂O at 254 nm yielded (10 radicals which formed ClO dimer at the low temperature of the experiment. By following the decay of Cl₂O with and without dimer present the distinction between the two photolysis paths was possible. The results indicate that at 254 nm Cl and ClOO are the dominant products,

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and Photochemistry

(b) 0340 Middle atmosphere-
composition and chemistry

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